

<p>IMPERIAL VALLEY, CA STEPS OF SUCCESS 2001-2002 Grant Amount: \$5 Million</p>	<p>Steps of Success, YOG Administrative Office, 302 Main Street, Brawley, CA Tel: (760) 344-9759; Fax: (760) 344-9760 Project Director, Marilyn Boyle: mboyle@icoe.k12.ca.us</p>
<p>Mission and Vision</p> <p>The project shares with our community the responsibility for the education of our young people in order for them to become successful and independent adults. We strive to provide opportunities to develop the professional personal, and social skills youth need to increase their long-term employment opportunities. Our mission: To provide nurturing and safe environments for our youth; to assist our youth in becoming productive and responsible members of society; to create enriching and varied academic, personal, professional, and social experiences; to build a cooperative link between home, school, and community, recognizing and valuing the unique cultural diversity of our communities.</p>	<p>Program Overview</p> <p>This poorest California County targets three very rural areas with substantial infrastructure and service needs. The poverty rate in some areas is as high as 70 percent. The program is based on a system of rewards and services based on positive and healthy choices. Case managers develop close personal relationships with the youth to work on very foundational issues to build success. The project provides many academic, personal, cultural and recreational opportunities that would not be accessible to them without this program. There is a set of mutual responsibilities that focus on the overall expectations of the YO movement.</p>
<p>HIGHLIGHTS AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with alternative education to provide leadership/personal social skills/employment training • Softball tournament-SOS sites/city workers-Calipatria & Niland • Over 100 youth in work experiences and over 30 youth in unsubsidized employment • Varied class offerings • Dawning of a sense of personal responsibility by a core number of enrolled youth <p>KEY PARTNERS/ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imperial County Office of Education: Strong partnership in the collaboration at the community school level and numerous offerings of personal and social skills classes • NCCOA(Arts Component): A strong arts coordinator who engages youth to want to participate in the offerings. Readily available to any youth interested in participating. • Calipatria High School: very strong partnership. The school is willing to assist in any way that they can. • City of Calipatria: Always willing to work with SOS in anyway. Provide work experience opportunities • Brawley Union High School: A good partner who is appreciative of what SOS is doing for Brawley youth • One—Stop/ICOET: This is a strong positive partnership. Staff is professional, resourceful and helpful • Youth Councils: We expect that the youth council will actively engage with SOS within the next quarter, as our former director, Efrain Silva, is now the WIB Director. • Local Advisory Board: Local advisory boards are in place. Faith based community is represented and they have demonstrated desire to fully engage in program. • Workplace/Business Partners: The number of workplace/business partners is growing each week. Strong connection with local businesses and they are actively placing youth in entry-level positions (unsubsidized) and providing work experience. Developed relationship with temp agencies to expand employment options • Community Partners: Various and numerous. Businesses and community service organizations are engaged with staff and the youth in various different ways. The schools, the cities, the community members and the employers assist us regularly: services in kind, discounts for supplies, assistance with community endeavors and moral support. 	

